

NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

OFFICE N. W. CORNER OF FULTON AND NASSAU STS.

TERMS: cash in advance. Money sent by mail will be at the risk of the sender. None but bank bills current in New York taken.

THE DAILY HERALD, published every day in the year, four cents per copy. Annual subscription price, \$14. THE WEEKLY HERALD, every Saturday, at five cents per copy. Annual subscription price:—

One Copy..... 5
Three Copies..... 15
Five Copies..... 25
Ten Copies..... 50

Any larger number addressed to names of subscribers \$1.50 each. An extra copy will be sent to every club of ten. Twenty copies to one address, one year, \$35, and any larger number at same price. An extra copy will be sent to clubs of twenty. These rates make the WEEKLY HERALD the cheapest publication in the country.

Postage free outside per copy for three months. The EUROPEAN EXPRESS, every Wednesday, at six cents per copy, \$6 per annum to any part of Great Britain, or \$6 to any part of the Continent, both to include postage. The CALIFORNIA EXPRESS, on the 1st and 15th of each month, at six cents per copy, or \$3 per annum.

ADVERTISEMENTS, to a limited number, will be inserted in the WEEKLY HERALD, the EUROPEAN and California Editions.

NO NOTICE taken of anonymous correspondence. We do not return rejected communications.

Volume XXXI. No. 2

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway.—Moss—Saw.

LUCY RUSHTON'S NEW YORK THEATRE, Nos. 725 and 727 Broadway.—The School for Scandal.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 Bowery.—Sings, Dancing, Burlesques, &c.—The Victim.

GEORGE CHRISTY'S MINSTRELS.—The Old School of Minstrelsy, Burlesques, &c.—The Fifth Avenue Opera House, Nos. 2 and 4 West Twenty-fourth St. The Black Slave.

NEW NATIONAL CIRCUS, 37 and 39 Bowery.—Equine, Trunk, Operatic and Acrobatic Performances by the COLUMBIAN BROTHERS, &c.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, 225 Broadway, opposite Metropolitan Hotel.—Burlesques, Songs, &c.—New Year's Calls.

BRYANT'S MINSTRELS, Mechanics' Hall, 422 Broadway.—The Bryant's New Street Speeches—Burlesques, Songs, &c.—Black Eye Willie.

THEATRE COMIQUE, 145 West Chapel, 120 Broadway.—Songs, Glee, Burlesques, &c.—The Theatre, 145 West Chapel, 120 Broadway.

GRAND STREET THEATRE, corner of Grand and Crosby streets.—Dramas, Farces, and Burlesques.

HOOVER'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn.—Burlesques, Songs, &c.—The Theatre, 145 West Chapel, 120 Broadway.

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 615 Broadway.—Open from 10 A. M. till 10 P. M.

CLINTON HALL, 45th Street—Addresses by Eminent Members of the British Brotherhood.

New York, Tuesday, January 2, 1866.

NEWSPAPER CIRCULATION.

Receipts of Sales of the New York Daily Newspapers.

OFFICIAL.

Name of Paper. Year Ending May 1, 1865.

Herald.....\$1,005,000

Times.....363,150

Tribune.....252,000

Evening Post.....163,427

World.....100,000

Sun.....161,079

Express.....90,748

New York Herald.....\$1,005,000

Times, Tribune, World and Sun combined.....\$71,420

THE NEWS.

The first day of the new year was an ugly one indeed. During the night previous a drizzling rain began to fall, and continued unrelentingly during the entire day. Nevertheless our citizens turned out quite in force, and numerous calls were made in connection with the old custom. The Warden of the Tombs and a number of charitable persons gave a dinner to the inmates of the City Prison. Five hundred and twenty inmates were feasted at a table laden with all the creature comforts which they devoured with keen relish. The day was celebrated on Blackwell's Island by the discharge of over two hundred persons detained there on various charges. In the suburban cities of the metropolis the old Knickerbocker custom was well kept up, particularly in Brooklyn, where the streets were all alive with callers. The custom is extending southward, and at Baltimore was observed more generally than ever before. The day was celebrated in the "Hub" as the anniversary of emancipation.

The first New Year's reception of President Johnson, in spite of rain and weather, was largely attended. The foreign ministers and their attaches attended in full court dress. All the members of the Cabinet, the justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, and other prominent civil officers, together with Senators and Representatives, also present. The usual annual visit. The officers of the army, navy and marine corps, in full uniform, were similarly received. After the general reception at the Executive Mansion the colored citizens were admitted, for the first time in our history, and paid their respects to the President.

General Grant, all the members of the Cabinet, excepting Secretary Seward, who is absent from Washington, and other government officers, and the Mayor and many private citizens, received their friends.

The new city government was fully organized yesterday, without difficulty or delay. The Mayor was sworn in at noon, and immediately thereafter began to receive his friends at his office in the City Hall. They were legion, and the reception passed off pleasantly.

The Board of Aldermen met, and organized by the election of John P. President, and D. T. Valentine Clerk. The Mayor's message, which will be found on another page, was received, read and ordered to be printed.

The Board of Commissioners also organized without much discussion, by electing Mr. J. Wilson Green President and Edward M. Hagerty Clerk. The Mayor's message was also received by this body, and one thousand copies ordered to be printed, after which the Board adjourned till Monday.

The city governments of Philadelphia, Boston and many other municipalities throughout the country were reorganized yesterday, and commenced the new year with new executive and legislative officers.

In the caucus of the republican members of the State Assembly, held at Albany last evening, it was unanimously resolved to nominate Lyman Tremaine as the republican candidate for Speaker of the House. The democratic caucus called at the same hour was postponed on account of the slim attendance.

In answer to late resolutions of the House of Representatives Secretary Seward has submitted to that body certain correspondence with the Mexican Minister at Washington and the French Minister of Foreign Affairs which throws considerable light upon the character of the system of slavery proposed to be introduced in Mexico by Maximilian, and also the nature of the opinions on the subject held by the law officers of our government. The Minister of the Mexican republic, M. Romero, explains that Maximilian's system provides for the binding of working men for not less than five nor more than ten years to masters to be known as patrons on terms really making the slavery thus instituted perpetual and hereditary. The decree law which provides as an article against fugitive slaves and the absorption by the public treasury of all property of such workmen as its inmates. Mr. Seward, in commenting on this decree in a letter of instructions to Mr. Dole, says that the administration has discussed its features and decided that its tendency is to reduce the workmen into a condition of poor slavery. This opinion had been communicated to the French Minister, and the commission of gentlemen from the Southern

States of this country appointed to proceed to Brazil and examine into its eligibility as a favorable region for our dissatisfied rebels to settle in, had returned to Rio Janeiro, in the beginning of this month, from their explorations in the southern provinces of the empire, and were very sanguine regarding the location of several thousand Southern families there. There are serious difficulties, however, in the way of this wholesale immigration movement, the Brazilians generally not looking on it favorably, and there being, besides, a prospect of the early abolition of slavery in the empire, thus depriving our Southern brethren of one of the principal privileges which they expected to be able to continue to enjoy by their emigration. Our correspondence from the Brazilian capital, published this morning, contains much interesting information relative to this matter and the progress of the river Plate war. By our dates of November 19 it appears that the Paraguayan army, which had been concentrated in Corrientes, had retreated further into the mountainous interior. Their new position behind the defences of Humaita is represented to be very strong. The allied army followed the retreating forces, and were preparing for the attack upon the new position of the Paraguayan army. The question of the future status of the freedmen of the South and the systematizing of free labor receives a new aspect with the coming year. It appears from this morning, that the Freedmen's Bureau has been for some time past organizing a new system of labor, in which all the guarantees are not on the part of the employer. The freedmen are now required to give assurances of good faith in the performance of their duties and the observance of their contracts. We publish a copy of the contract which each freedman in South Carolina is required to enter into with his employer, together with a letter from the rebel General Pillow, showing the success of his efforts in working a force of four hundred of them. An order from General Pickens extending the supervision of the Freedmen's Bureau to the newly freed State of Kentucky is also given and will be found of grave interest.

Early yesterday morning a party of five men who had been out to inaugurate the new year entered the lager beer saloon No. 149 Mesurado street, Williamsburg, and called for drinks. The barkeeper, perceiving that they had been indulging in strong drink rather freely, refused to comply with their demands, when one of the party, named John Shumott, who had a loaded musket in his hand, levelled it at the barkeeper, pulled trigger, and shot him through the heart, causing instant death. The party then escaped, but were subsequently arrested by the police of the Forty-sixth precinct. The murdered man was named John Wachner, and was twenty-two years of age.

The January term of the General Sessions formally commenced yesterday, but of course no business was transacted. The Court was opened and immediately adjourned till this morning, when the grand and petty jurors summoned for yesterday will attend. Judge Russell will preside this morning.

The Consul's jury which held an inquest on the body of Mr. and Mrs. McLaughlin, found dead in their apartments in the tenement house No. 597 Grand street, have discovered that death resulted from gas generated by a stove in the room. It is stated that a Mr. Hunt, brother of the agent of the house, had inserted a flue stove across the chimney of the room of the deceased, thus cutting off the draught, in order to force them to vacate the premises. The jury is to continue its examination at eleven o'clock this morning.

In a general fire light, which occurred in Thirty-eight street, near Tenth avenue, on New Year's morning, Bernard McElhone was dangerously stabbed by Corporal Hoover. The latter, as well as Anthony Cusman, Henry Schugel, Peter Morris, John Horne and Nicholas Jacks, was arrested and committed.

The O'Mahony faction of the Fenians held a congress at Clinton Hall, commencing to-day. Its purpose is to endorse Mr. O'Mahony's course as President of the Irish republic. Eight of the Philadelphia circles which will be represented have already done this.

The steamer James S. Brady collided with the tug E. H. Nether in the Patuxent river on Saturday last, the former receiving considerable injury.

The United States steamer South Carolina, with the new steamer Nesaminy in tow, arrived yesterday at this port from Philadelphia.

We have news from Nicaragua to December 16. Some excitement had been created throughout that country by reported successes at the Chontales gold mines, and a great emigration was anticipated on the announcement of these successes.

The bodies of Captain Thompson, wife and daughter, American residents of Bluefields, who were reported in our late correspondence from Graytown as drowned during a heavy gale on the Mosquito coast, have been recovered. The King of the Mosquito country is dead. Colonel S. A. Gilbert and Captain P. C. E. West, United States Coast Survey, designated by the President, at the request of the President of the republic of New Granada, to survey the Magdalena river, arrived at Panama on December 19, and were to proceed immediately to Santa Martha.

Some additional particulars regarding the suicide of Richard Owens at Boston, of which we gave an account yesterday morning, state that the suicide was connected with Booth in the plot to assassinate President Lincoln.

The French Troops in Mexico—Their Mission and the Freedom of the Popular Will.

There are twenty-five thousand French troops in Mexico, and France is adding to their number all the time. Scarcely a steamer comes from Vera Cruz but reports the arrival there of bodies of European soldiery. Various reasons have been given for the presence of these foreign troops in the territory of our sister republic. At first we were told that they were there to secure the rights of European creditors. Mexico, with a population of eight million persons, owed forty million dollars in Europe. She made a declaration that she could not attempt to pay any portion of it for two years, and straightway Great Britain, France and Spain landed troops at Vera Cruz and took the debtor into custody. Mexico made a satisfactory arrangement of her debts, and Great Britain and Spain withdrew; but the French troops remained in the country. The pretext of debt being no longer tenable, we have since had intimations that the French troops were in Mexico to sustain the Latin race against the Anglo-Saxon in this hemisphere, the Latin race having already all of South and Central America and a large slice of North America, against a partial occupation of North America by the aforesaid Anglo-Saxons.

Another reason given for the presence of French troops in Mexico is that they are there to secure certain rights, not of European creditors or of the Latin race, but of the Mexican people. The principal of these is the right of the Mexicans to express their opinions freely in election and to choose a ruler. A European Emperor sends an army three or four thousand miles to secure freedom to the people of an American republic. No one takes the pains to tell us who it was that was likely to deprive the Mexicans of this great right when the French came in. Perhaps it was Benito Juarez, though it is hard to see how he could have deprived them of that right, since the French journals assure us he is a person without any power or influence. But, not to inquire too particularly into these points, we must recognize in this French intervention between the Mexican people and no one knows who—a lofty view of international justice—a view worthy the high character of the Emperor of France, who has informed the world that he is one of its Moslems.

The presence of French troops having secured the right of choice to the Mexican people, they chose that their country should no longer be a republic, but an empire, and that Maximilian should be their Emperor. This was handsome on the part of the Mexicans. Maximilian was the candidate of the French, and as the French had secured to the Mexicans

the inestimable right of free choice, the Mexicans in return could not do less than choose the man they knew would be most acceptable to France—especially as there was no other candidate. And here there is a little difficulty. Without questioning the sincerity of France or the purity of her intentions in all this matter, we would inquire whether she went to work in the best way to secure an impartial choice? Is the occupation of a country by troops the most certain way to establish the freedom of thought and action? Is not the presence of an army likely to prejudice choice one way or the other? We have already seen that the national politeness of the Mexicans toward their friends from France would have some effect in this way. And we are convinced that it is just possible the Mexicans might have preferred some other man to the illustrious Max if the armies of Napoleon had been kept at home.

Europe has some good ideas as to the effect of military occupation on popular sentiment. In Europe it is believed that the presence of troops inclines public sentiment to the views of the nation whose soldiers hold the country. This has been seen in the occupation of Rome. There are French troops there, and it is generally supposed that but for the effect their presence has had on the people Italy would have driven out some time ago the poor old Pope. Germany furnishes another instance. The German confederation is made up of two great governments and a number of small ones, and the federal army is supplied in about three equal parts, of which one is Austrian and another Prussian, the third part being supplied by all the smaller States together. Now the conflict of opinion that is always in progress throughout the German States is between Austrian and Prussian influence. The struggle for the supremacy of influence on the part of these Powers originates nearly all the complications of German politics, and it has been observed that wherever in the distribution of federal garrisons there is a large number of Prussian to the exclusion of other troops, there Prussian influence prevails. Where there are Austrian troops, in the same way the admiration of Austria runs high. The observation of this has made necessary much caution in the posting of federal troops; and it will be noticed that while minor points are equally divided between the paramount Powers, important places are held in common, with equal forces.

For securing the real freedom of the people and a positively impartial expression of opinion we believe that this German plan is much preferable to the plan tried by the French in Mexico. We suggest its application in that country. Not feeling quite certain that the Mexicans would have elected Maximilian Emperor if they had had their own way about it, we call upon our government to make some arrangement by which the election can be had over again, under more favorable circumstances. The twenty-five thousand French troops are very well to secure freedom, but they would be better if assisted and balanced by twenty-five thousand United States troops. Let us try it that way. Perhaps, with equal bodies of Frenchmen and Americans looking on, the Mexicans might elect as their ruler the puppet of a European game, but we are not yet ready to believe it.

The New City Administration—The Mayor's Message.

Our new city administration was organized yesterday. In connection with the proceedings thereof, the inaugural message to the Common Council of the new Mayor, John T. Hoffman, will be found exceedingly interesting reading to our city taxpayers and all others interested in such visionary projects as retrenchment and reform. Mayor Hoffman's opening message, like those of all his illustrious predecessors, reminds us of the old adage of the new broom. With few exceptions, his statements, statistics, explanations and recommendations, and the general drift and spirit of his report, are good. He challenges our confidence in such an amiable and convincing way that it is hard to resist him; but we also find it hard to resist in some things the idea of Senator Sumner, as applied to another matter, that this report, like poor Pierce's defensive message on Kansas, "is a whitewashing document."

Mayor Hoffman promises to do the very best that he can for us, and we hope and believe that he will. He thinks the city should be permitted to choose its own officers and carry on its own government—a proposition which, *prima facie*, seems to be unanswerable. But experience is the mother of wisdom, and our experience under our City Fathers of the last thirty years has from year to year suggested the necessity of a helping hand from the Legislature more and more, until at last a very large proportion of our taxpayers would hail a well balanced metropolitan commission, with a responsible head centre, as a godsend. Secondly, Mayor Hoffman holds that the Mayor of New York should be "clothed with power commensurate with his responsibilities," which is a fair proposition. But he says further that "a concentration of power and of responsibility should be the end and aim of all legislation relating to the (city's) government," and that it is "the division of power and the division of responsibility which cause all, or nearly all, of our municipal evils." This is true; and we think we have had quite enough of a system of division of powers and disbursements, under which our corrupt "rings" have carried on, and may carry on, their spoliation without stint, and snap their fingers at investigating committees. We want a city government with a responsible chief executive officer and a subordinate cabinet, like that of the executive government at Washington; but we do not want the heads of departments as the mere creatures of the Common Council. We want something better and safer than that system of "rings" and spoils and plunder.

The local tax levy of 1865 of this "tight little island" was \$18,903,952, or five millions more than the whole annual expenditure of the government of the United States under John Quincy Adams. This is pretty steep; but there is some comfort in the Mayor's estimates of a retrenchment for 1866 to the extent of four millions. We think, with a little honest assistance from the Legislature, it may be made five or six millions; but between the "rings" of this city and the Albany lobby we are not sanguine of any reduction whatever. The Mayor's items of the increase in the levy of last year, and his explanations, are worthy of consideration, as are also his views in reference to the city property and improvements, wharves and markets, street cleaning (barring the Brown, Devoe and Knapp contractors), sanitary matters, sewerage,

&c. His appeal in behalf of official fidelity, zeal, honesty, and all that, is also very good. In brief, his message is calculated to create a good impression in favor of our new Mayor; but still the evils to which he refers can only be remedied by a thorough-going reconstruction of our municipal government from top to bottom. In view of this essential work of reform we are gratified to believe that Mayor Hoffman cannot be considered at Albany as an impediment, but as a Mayor who will answer the purpose.

The World's Fair in Paris.

The proposed universal exposition of the products and arts of all nations in Paris will be, undoubtedly, the most complete and grand exhibition ever witnessed. Our World's Fair and the world's fairs of other countries will sink into insignificance in comparison. It will eclipse even the great London International Exposition.

The French government and people, realizing the vast importance of it to their commerce, are making the most astonishing efforts to surpass the world with the excellence and variety of their productions. No people, it must be confessed, know how to do this better than they do, if as well. They have exquisite taste, and can transform poor materials or indifferent objects into attractive ones. They are, at the same time, most ingenious, inventive, artistic and scientific. Their cosmopolitan ideas and policy, too, enable them to attract and appropriate the intellectual achievements of the rest of mankind. Italian art or English and American science becomes naturalized or adapted in France, and thus becomes in a manner French. The same may be said of the discoveries or superior productions of other countries. We can readily imagine, then, what extraordinary opportunities France will have at the Paris Exposition. The liberal encouragement and energy of the government in the matter, the ambitious rivalry and commercial interests of the French people, and the location of the exposition at Paris, the centre of both French and European art, will give to France very decided advantages.

But the other nations of Europe are alive to the importance of making the best show possible. Each one has some peculiar excellence in manufactures, arts or natural productions which they will not fail to exhibit. We can imagine that now there are thousands of inventive heads and skilled hands hard at work in England, Italy, Germany and other countries, as well as in France, preparing for the great occasion. It will be competition on the grandest scale for the highest prize—that is, for the markets or the trade of the world. It will be a great show shop for all nations to gaze at and study. That one which produces the best silk manufactures, or cloth, cotton or any other manufactures, will be apt to get the custom, prices and other things being equal. So of machinery, works of art, or raw materials. The rivalry, consequently, will be very great. Other important advantages will be derived from this universal exposition beside those according to the trade of different nations. It will be a great school, a sort of polytechnic, where one may learn from the other and all be improved. It merits the heartiest encouragement from the people of every country. No one will begrudge the immense profit Paris will derive from the crowds of visitors who will visit it on that occasion, and the vast amount of money that will be spent there, for the great city is worthy of it, and the whole world will be benefited.

The question, however, which more immediately concerns us, is what sort of representation are we going to make there? How will the United States stand in comparison with other nations before the eyes of the assembled world? That is the paramount question for us to consider. It is to be hoped every American who possesses any capacity for invention or execution in art or science, or for bringing out our best natural productions, will apply it to himself individually, and work like a Hercules for his own honor and the credit of his country. We labor under many disadvantages, but the energy and talents of our people can overcome many of these. We are at a great distance from Paris; we do not feel the stimulating influence of those there and those who are much nearer; the conversations and publications about the great event scarcely rarely reach us, and we see and hear less of the preparations for it. Those in the immediate neighborhood have their minds more directed to it and necessarily become more stimulated. Then we are not so advanced in the art of manufacturing the thousand little things which fill up so much and prove so attractive at these expositions. We could not compete with Europe in articles of elegant bijouterie, of *objets d'art*, or of certain kinds of fine manufactures; and although we have commenced a new era in the fine arts and have some works of the highest order, we cannot make much show beside the nations of the old continent. In those things which give us a pre-eminence we cannot be represented at any world's fair. Our vast continent, with its varied and teeming resources, cannot be represented. The vigor of thirty-five millions of hardy, brave and industrious people, subduing the wilderness and making it blossom as the rose, cannot be represented. The spirit and ambition of the people, the unequalled military power of the nation, the character of our institutions, which elevate men so much and which diffuse prosperity throughout the community, cannot be represented. The religious sentiment, general high standard of morality and domestic virtue of the mass of our native born and well established community cannot be represented. Many other things in which we excel every other nation are not capable of representation at a world's fair. We may suffer depreciation, therefore, in the eyes of the mass of superficial observers, while in reality we stand first as a people in all that concerns the substantial well being of society.

Still we ought to make the best appearance at the Paris Exposition. Our interests and the honor of the country behoove us to do so. There are many things in which we can rival Europe, and some for which we can obtain the palm of excellence. In machinery, and in all the implements and instruments which enter into the useful arts of life, we may not be behind any nation, and probably first. These things, too, are of the highest value to mankind. Let us be well represented in these things. There are many kinds of manufactures in fabrics all which excel in usefulness, if not in fitness. Let the best productions of our gold, silver, quicksilver, copper and other mines be seen, as well as the choicest products of the soil in all their wonderful variety. Let

the works of our rising artists be there; and we think no nation will produce a finer picture of grand natural scenery than Church's "Heart of the Andes." It is impossible to enumerate the many things we can and ought to send to the Exposition, or of those in which we may expect to excel. Thousands will be thought of by a people so active and of such various tastes and pursuits. All we can say is, begin early, begin everywhere, and work in earnest for the great event; for nations will be judged a good deal by what appearance they make there, and it is not probable that such an event or opportunity will occur again for a long time.

The Capital of Ireland in Union Square—The Fenian Fiasco.

Not many months ago there was an organization of Irishmen in this country so considerable as to excite the apprehensions of a government three thousand miles away. That organization was not merely respectable, but, whether viewed in regard to its elements or its objects, it was justly entitled to be called great. It is no hyperbole to say that it had the sworn fealty of a larger number of men than have been massed in any single army in modern times; and they are men whom military experts would declare the best material of which soldiers can be made. It had the earnest wishes and the ready contribution of the whole living generation of Irish emigrants in this country, as well as of the children born here of generations of Irish emigrants that have passed away. Never were Peter's pence paid with such fervent good will as Irish men and women paid their hard-earned subscriptions to the Fenian fund. The object of the organization was to overthrow British rule in Ireland, and in their aspirations for the freedom of their country and their hatred of an arrogant and tyrannical power these men had the sympathy of the whole American people—a sympathy that would have shown that our neutrality laws are as easily evaded as are those of Great Britain.

The Fenian Brotherhood had money enough to begin with, plenty of men, and a fair field before it. Under competent leaders it might have made itself a great name, and it would not by any means be the most wonderful thing in history if it had accomplished its object. But it had foolish leaders, and the greatest power ever organized for the benefit of Ireland was squandered. Spendthrift simulators frittered it away until there is only enough left to laugh at. By such operations as the establishment of the Union square headquarters they set on their movements the stamp of humbug and folly. They gave notice that their alleged object was not their real object; that they had very little thought for Ireland and a great deal of thought for themselves, and that they would be abundantly satisfied with the result of their labors if the homage and admiration of their deluded followers would sufficiently flatter their vanity and pay their bills. All the world knows very well, and has plenty of examples to show, that earnest purpose never makes parade of its power—does not hope or try to carry things by bluster, and does not strike attitudes and boast of what it will do, but goes and does it.

Cyrus the younger was a practical Fenian. He organized in a foreign country, and at a distance, in fact, greater than the width of the Atlantic, an expedition against the empire of Persia. He marched his force into his enemy's country, and fought a great battle for his purpose. The Fenian struggles will never be classed in history with the expedition of Cyrus. But the Irish capital in Union square has one historical parallel. It is exactly like that farcical capital of England that was established in France, at St. Germain, by the Chevalier St. George, otherwise known as the Pretender. It was inconvenient for this piece of royalty to have his capital at London, as his head would not have been safe there, since the country seemed agreed that George, some time of Hanover, was the real king. But there were hot heads and stout hearts that preferred that Stuart; and there is now no doubt that there was a time when that Stuart, striking in the right way, might have been king, and gone into England with an army, and Marlborough at the head of it. "The Pretender," however, did not see the time. He was too busy with his toy—his capital of England at St. Germain. There he lorded it over a court of more or less brilliancy. There he made and unmade ministers and deposed such a secretary as Bolingbroke. There he ruled a realm just large enough for his abilities, and the Fenian leaders do the same in Union square.

SHALL WE HAVE THE CHOLERA OR SOME OTHER DREADFUL DISEASE IN NEW YORK?

We ask this question seriously, as the accumulated filth in the streets of this city gives us reason to apprehend some fearful disease as soon as the severe cold weather shall begin to pass away. It cannot be otherwise if the street cleaning contractors do not attend to their duties better than they have done, or if there be not some means of compelling them to do so. We may pass through the very cold weather without such a disaster, for the frost and snow have a tendency to check malarious or infectious diseases; but the winter is advancing rapidly, and we shall soon have rains and milder days, and with them the death exhalations of a filthy city. Then who will be to blame? Upon whose souls will rest the deaths of the victims? Who will be responsible for the terrible scourge? There can be but one answer. The street cleaning contractors—Messrs. Brown, Devoe and Knapp. The people of this great metropolis will hold these men responsible for the evil that will surely come unless they do their duty better than they are doing it. The city authorities who have a supervision of this matter may be to blame in part; they might withhold payment to the contractors until they know the work has been properly performed; but if these men should take the legal oath required that the streets are clean—should swear themselves, in fact—these authorities may be powerless to act. If the contractors have no conscience as to their duty, or as to the deaths that may be caused by their guilty negligence, we see no way of reaching them but through indignant public opinion. We warn them not to trifle with a too patient people in such a grave matter, and give them notice that their delinquency shall be exposed. We hope this timely caution may relieve us of the necessity of more particular statements and greater severity. We have no objection to these contractors making a pretty good thing out of their contract, but we cannot suffer the public health to be endangered by carelessness or heedless indifference.

THE STATE CAPITAL.

Arrival of the Members of the Legislature.

Unusual Harmony Existing Among Our Legislators.

Lyman Tremaine the Republican Candidate for Speaker.

ASPECT OF THE COMMITTEES.

S. C. S. C. S. C.

Our Special Albany Despatch.

ALBANY, Jan. 1, 1866.

The great body of the members of both houses of the Legislature arrived here to-day. They either alighted at an opposition party presents a very curious aspect of these bodies. A very unusual condition of things can hardly be expected to continue to the end of the session. Just now this one-sided uniformity conduces to a state of dulness, offering very little material of interest for any purpose.

THE SPEAKERSHIP.

The second class wirepullers and lobby men have made quite an effort to-day to get up a contest about the Speakership, by way of making themselves of some moment. Quite a stir was started about the prospects of Hoskins in opposition to Tremaine; but when the caucus met in the Assembly Chamber to-night Mr. Hoskins took immediate occasion to withdraw his name, and nominated Tremaine, which course was endorsed by acclamation. The wirepullers found themselves at fault, and the aspect of the session at once developed itself.

HARMONY AMONG THE FAVORITES.

The idea of any fight as between the Wood and Seward interest against any other in the Union party will have to be developed in some other connection. I have every reason to know that, since the municipal election in New York city last month, there has been a great change developed in what was the Wood and Greeley contest, and which has had so much prominence hitherto. Wood has been positively divorced from his former alliances with the Tammany Hall democracy. He has, it appears, accepted the views of Governor Fenton, and the plans discussed in the party for treating the city government and the political organizations of New York.

THE GREELEY FACTOR.

The course of the Greeley faction in the municipal election, and their unusual combination with the Woods and the exploded secession interest, has had a very strong influence in the interior of the State. It has confirmed the repudiation of the Greeley interest and otherwise consolidated the party. This is the secret of the unanimity in the caucus to-night. Littlejohn, who was to have been the Wood and Seward candidate, was withdrawn a month ago. The discussion about Hoskins was a mere personal demonstration, in which the Wood interest was only concerned at its conclusion in dictating his withdrawal, like that of Littlejohn.

I venture to predict that any serious rupture or division in the party will be postponed until the business in regard to New York city legislation is disposed of by a thorough review of the charter and county government.

THE UNITED STATES SENATORSHIP.

The United States Senatorship, the most serious subject of the contention between the cliques, does not come on the board until next year. I have good reason to know that the aspect of that question as presented itself when Governor Fenton was a candidate last year will be materially changed as to Wood and Seward, provided the latter continues in the Cabinet and is not a candidate himself.

While insisting that Wood had personally no hand in the contest here about the Speakership, I do not overlook the fact which, like the clamor of a broken-down horse, has prevailed about it in the corridors of the Delaware House for twenty-four hours.

THE SENATE COMMITTEES.

The aspect of the committees may be reasonably judged from the result of this contest. The usage which would place Hoskins in the position of chairman of Ways and Means will not be insisted upon, and either Cates or Railroad will be his probable post. The leadership as chairman of Ways and Means will probably devolve on C. B. Cochrane; Judge Selden will be chairman of the Judiciary; Littlejohn has an absorbing interest in his great project of a Niagara ship canal, and is presumed to look for the leading place on the Canal Committee, this being contested, however, by Dan Wood, who is the representative not only of the Canal Board, but also of the radicals, for Cities.

THE SENATE COMMITTEES.

A variety of interesting points are developing in the Senate. The re-election of Senator Andrews signifies an able treatment of New York city matters. His reputation as chairman of Cities will be a matter of his own opinion, although it would be a well deserved rebuke to the New York reformers who abused him so unjustly to have him decline to serve. The force of duty will, however, compel him to assume the great work now fairly within view of completing some thorough and simple reorganization of the metropolis this winter.

Senator White, of the late Senate, whose experience and intelligence were tested on the Investigation Committee, will doubtless resume his position on Cities with Senator Andrews. Lent, of New York, and Pierson, of Brooklyn, will also go on this committee. Street Commissioner Cornell and Ben Wood are supposed to have influence enough to keep each other out of this committee.

The idea of placing one democrat on every committee is impracticable, as there are but few democratic Senators, and the most that can be expected is that they will have one place to attend to.

Low, Stafford and Murphy are mentioned for chairman of Railroads, with the prohibitions in favor of Low. This indicates a look on the part of the radicals to railroad legislation in their own interest. Folger will be chairman of the Judiciary, sessions of Finance and Prison of Commerce.

The further speculations on the Senate organization are not sufficiently matured. Berthier is Clerk without a competitor in the Senate, as Chairman is in the Assembly.

THE PRESS DESPATCH.

ALBANY, Jan. 1, 1866.

REPUBLICAN CAUCUS.

In the Union Senatorial caucus James Tweedie was nominated for Clerk, Captain Arthur Hoskins for Sergeant-at-Arms, Sanders Wilson for Postmaster and E. B. Young for Doorkeeper; Frank M. Jones, Nathaniel Saxton and August Wagner, Assistant Doorkeepers. The chairman, Senator Folger, appointed as a caucus committee Messrs. Low, Cornell and Lent. The caucus then adjourned.

At seven o'clock the Union Assembly caucus was called to order by E. L. Pitts, of Orleans, on whose motion Daniel Wood, of Oneida, was chosen chairman.

On motion of Mr. Cochrane, John L. Parker, of Cayuga, and James Thorne, of Rensselaer, were chosen secretaries. George G. Hoskins, declared himself a candidate for Speaker, and moved the unanimous nomination of Lyman Tremaine. Carried. Joseph R. Cushman was nominated for Clerk, Frederick T. Hempstead for Sergeant-at-Arms, E. B. Pennington, Doorkeeper, and Alexander Fraser and Oscar E. Dean, Assistant Doorkeepers.

Calls were made for Mr. Tremaine. He responded by expressing his warmest